

there has never been a government program that was not worth keeping, you cannot look at some of the results we now have and not want to reach out to the humans and forget the bureaucraticacies.

If we could build that attitude on both sides of this aisle, we would be an amazingly different place, and the country would begin to be a different place.

We have to create a partnership. We have to reach out to the American people. We are going to do a lot of important things. Thanks to the House Information System and Congressman VERN EHLERS, as of today we are going to be on line for the whole country, every amendment, every conference report. We are working with C-SPAN and others, and Congressman GEPHARDT has agreed to help on a bipartisan basis to make the building more open to television, more accessible to the American people. We have talk radio hosts here today for the first time. I hope to have a bipartisan effort to make the place accessible for all talk radio hosts of all backgrounds, no matter their ideology. The House Historian's office is going to be more aggressively run on a bipartisan basis to reach out to Close Up, and to other groups to teach what the legislative struggle is about. I think over time we can and will this Spring rethink campaign reform and lobbying reform and review all ethics, including the gift rule.

But that isn't enough. Our challenge shouldn't be just to balance the budget or to pass the Contract. Our challenge should not be anything that is just legislative. We are supposed to, each one of us, be leaders. I think our challenge has to be to set as our goal, and maybe we are not going to get there in 2 years. This ought to be the goal that we go home and we tell people we believe in: that there will be a Monday morning when for the entire weekend not a single child was killed anywhere in America; that there will be a Monday morning when every child in the country went to a school that they and their parents thought prepared them as citizens and prepared them to compete in the world market; that there will be a Monday morning where it was easy to find a job or create a job, and your own Government did not punish you if you tried.

We should not be happy just with the language of politicians and the language of legislation. We should insist that our success for America is felt in the neighborhoods, in the communities, is felt by real people living real lives who can say, "Yes, we are safer, we are healthier, we are better educated, America succeeds."

This morning's closing hymn at the prayer service was the Battle Hymn of the Republic. It is hard to be in this building, look down past Grant to the Lincoln Memorial and not realize how painful and how difficult that battle hymn is. The key phrase is, "As he died

to make men holy, let us live to make men free."

It is not just political freedom, although I agree with everything Congressman GEPHARDT said earlier. If you cannot afford to leave the public housing project, you are not free. If you do not know how to find a job and do not know how to create a job, you are not free. If you cannot find a place that will educate you, you are not free. If you are afraid to walk to the store because you could get killed, you are not free.

So as all of us over the coming months sing that song, "As he died to make men holy, let us live to make men free," I want us to dedicate ourselves to reach out in a genuinely non-partisan way to be honest with each other. I promise each of you that without regard to party my door is going to be open. I will listen to each of you. I will try to work with each of you. I will put in long hours, and I will guarantee that I will listen to you first. I will let you get it all out before I give you my version, because you have been patient with me today, and you have given me a chance to set the stage.

But I want to close by reminding all of us of how much bigger this is than us. Because beyond talking with the American people, beyond working together, I think we can only be successful if we start with our limits. I was very struck this morning with something Bill Emerson used, a very famous quote of Benjamin Franklin, at the point where the Constitutional Convention was deadlocked. People were tired, and there was a real possibility that the Convention was going to break up. Franklin, who was quite old and had been relatively quiet for the entire Convention, suddenly stood up and was angry, and he said:

I have lived, sir, a long time, and the longer I live the more convincing proofs I see of this truth, that God governs in the affairs of men, and if a sparrow cannot fall to the ground without His notice, is it possible that an empire can rise without His aid?

At that point the Constitutional Convention stopped. They took a day off for fasting and prayer.

Then, having stopped and come together, they went back, and they solved the great question of large and small States. They wrote the Constitution, and the United States was created. All I can do is pledge to you that, if each of us will reach out prayerfully and try to genuinely understand each other, if we will recognize that in this building we symbolize America, and that we have an obligation to talk with each other, then I think a year from now we can look on the 104th Congress as a truly amazing institution without regard to party, without regard to ideology. We can say, "Here, America comes to work, and here we are preparing for those children a better future."

Thank you. Good luck and God bless you.

Let me now call on the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. DINGELL].

(Applause, the Members rising.)

□ 1410

I am now ready to take the oath of office. I ask the dean of the House of Representatives, the Honorable JOHN D. DINGELL of Michigan, to administer the oath of office.

Mr. DINGELL then administered the oath of office to Mr. GINGRICH of Georgia, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

(Applause, the Members rising.)

SWEARING IN OF MEMBERS

The SPEAKER. According to the precedent, the Chair will swear in all Members of the House at this time and, without objection, the Members from the State of Alabama will also be sworn in at this time, there being no contest as to their elections.

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER. If the Members will rise, the Chair will now administer the oath of office.

The Members-elect and Delegates-elect and the Resident Commissioner-elect rose, and the Speaker administered the oath of office to them, as follows:

Do you solemnly swear that you will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that you will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; that you take this obligation freely, without any mental reservation or purpose of evasion, and that you will well and faithfully discharge the duties of the office on which you are about to enter. So help you God.

Congratulations, the gentlemen and gentlewomen are now Members of the 104th Congress.

MAJORITY LEADER

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican conference, I am directed by that conference to officially notify the House that the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable RICHARD K. ARMEY, has been selected as the majority leader of the House.

MINORITY LEADER

Mr. FAZIO. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that the Democratic Members have selected as minority leader the gentleman from Missouri, the Honorable RICHARD A. GEPHARDT.

MAJORITY WHIP

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Republican conference, I am directed by that conference to notify the House officially that the Republican Members have selected as our majority whip the gentleman from Texas, the Honorable TOM DELAY.

MINORITY WHIP

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, as chairman of the Democratic caucus, I have been directed to report to the House that the Democratic members have selected as minority whip the gentleman from Michigan, the Honorable David E. Bonior.

ELECTION OF CLERK OF THE HOUSE, SERGEANT AT ARMS, CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER, AND CHAPLAIN

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 1) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 1

Resolved, That Robin H. Carle, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and she is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That Wilson S. Livingood, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives;

That Scott M. Faulkner, of the State of West Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives; and

That Reverend James David Ford, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Chaplain of the House of Representatives.

Mr. FAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have an amendment to the resolution, but I request there be a division of the question on the resolution so that we may have a separate vote on the Chaplain.

□ 1420

The SPEAKER. The question will be divided.

The question is on agreeing to that portion of the resolution providing for the election of the Chaplain.

That portion of the resolution was agreed to.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. FAZIO

Mr. FAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. FAZIO: That Thomas O'Donnell, of the State of Maryland, be, and he is hereby, chosen Clerk of the House of Representatives;

That George Kundanis, of the District of Columbia, be, and he is hereby, chosen Sergeant at Arms of the House of Representatives; and

That Marti Thomas, of the District of Columbia, be, and she is hereby, chosen Chief Administrative Officer of the House of Representatives.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the amendment offered by the gentleman from California [Mr. FAZIO].

The amendment was rejected.

The SPEAKER. The question is on the remainder of the resolution offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. BOEHNER].

The remainder of the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. The Chair will now swear in the officers of the House. The officers will come forward, please.

The officers-elect presented themselves at the bar of the House and took the oath of office.

The SPEAKER. The gentlemen and gentlewomen are now Members of the 104th Congress. Congratulations.

NOTIFICATION TO SENATE OF ORGANIZATION OF THE HOUSE

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 2) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 2

Resolved, That the Senate be informed that a quorum of the House of Representatives has assembled; that NEWT GINGRICH, a Representative from the State of Georgia, has been elected Speaker; and Robin H. Carle, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia, has been elected Clerk of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COMMITTEE TO NOTIFY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ASSEMBLY OF THE CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 3) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 3

Resolved, That a committee of two Members be appointed by the Speaker on the part of the House of Representatives to join with a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has assembled and Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

The SPEAKER. The Chair appoints as members of the committee on the part of the House to join a committee on the part of the Senate to notify the President of the United States that a quorum of each House has been assembled, and that Congress is ready to receive any communication that he may be pleased to make, the gentleman from Texas [Mr. ARMEY], and the gentleman from Missouri [Mr. GEPHARDT].

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO INFORM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF THE ELECTION OF THE SPEAKER AND THE CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I offer a privileged resolution (H. Res. 4) and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 4

Resolved, That the Clerk be instructed to inform the President of the United States that the House of Representatives has elected NEWT GINGRICH, a Representative from the State of Georgia, Speaker; and Robin H. Carle, a citizen of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Clerk of the House of Representatives of the One Hundred Fourth Congress.

The resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MAKING IN ORDER IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FOR THE 104TH CONGRESS

Mr. ARMEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that it be in order immediately to consider in the House a resolution adopting the rules of the House of Representatives for the 104th Congress; that the resolution be considered as read; that the resolution be debatable initially for 30 minutes, to be equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader, or their designees; that the previous question be considered as ordered on the resolution to final adoption without intervening motion or demand for division of the question, except that the question of adopting the resolution shall be divided among nine parts, to wit: Each of the eight sections of title I, and then title II; each portion of the divided question shall be debatable separately for 20 minutes, to be equally divided and controlled by the majority leader and the minority leader, or their designees, and shall be disposed of in the order stated, but if the yeas and nays are ordered on the question of adopting any portion of the divided question, the Speaker may postpone further proceedings on that question until a later time during the consideration of the resolution; and, pending the question of adopting the ninth portion of the divided question, it shall be in order to move the previous question thereon, and if the previous question is ordered, to move that the House commit the resolution to a select committee, with or without instructions, and that the previous question be considered as ordered on the motion to commit to final adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

Mr. BONIOR. Reserving the right to object, Mr. Speaker, under my reservation I would like to ask the gentleman